

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for creating a speech recognition callflow for an application, comprising the steps of:

placing a symbolic representation of a prompt into a workspace of a graphical user interface for creating the speech recognition callflow for the application, said prompt defining a query requesting a value for a variable, wherein said placing generates within said application an instruction to present said query to a user;

attaching to the prompt representation at least one among a pre-built grammar selected by a user and a user-entered individual new option entered by the user using the graphical user interface during creation of the speech recognition callflow, wherein said attaching generates within said application an instruction to process a speech input responsive to said presented query using at least one among said pre-built grammar and said new option, wherein said pre-built grammar includes phrases associated with valid values for said variable, and wherein said new option comprises a user-defined phrase associated with a valid value for said variable;

if the new option does not match any element of the pre-built grammar or an annotation associated with an element of the pre-built grammar, automatically generating a new grammar independent of the pre-built grammar, the new grammar containing the new option; and

repeating the steps of placing and attaching for each other request to be included in the callflow until the speech recognition callflow has been completed.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of attaching the pre-built grammar comprises the step of selecting the pre-built grammar from a list of pre-built grammars.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the method further comprises the step of searching the list of pre-built grammars for matches to the user-entered individual new option.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein if a match exists between a listed pre-built grammar and the user-entered individual new option, then the user-entered individual new option points to said matching pre-built grammar.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pre-built grammars are selected from the group comprising VoiceXML and custom-built grammars from a library.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the step of enabling a customized user selective output of the pre-built grammar.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method supports prototyping without knowledge of a grammar structure by a user.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein if no match exists between the list of pre-built grammars and the user-entered option, then the phrase in said option is added to said pre-built grammar.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for creating speech recognition callflow for an application, comprising the steps of:

placing a symbolic representation of a prompt into a workspace of a graphical user interface for creating the speech recognition callflow for the application, said prompt defining a query requesting a value for a variable, wherein said placing generates within said application an instruction to present said query to a user;

assigning an individual option supplied by a user during user-directed creation of the speech recognition callflow and a pre-built grammar to the symbolically represented prompt, wherein said assigning generates within said application an instruction to process a speech input responsive to said presented query using at least one among said pre-built grammar and said new option, wherein said pre-built grammar includes phrases associated with valid values for said variable, and wherein said new option comprises a user-defined phrase associated with a valid value for said variable if the individual option is a potential valid match to a recognition phrase or an annotation in the pre-built grammar, recognizing that the individual option is a potential valid match and responsively configuring the individual option to point to an entry in the pre-built grammar; and

if the individual option fails to be a potential valid match to the recognition phrase or the annotation in the pre-built grammar, determining that the individual option fails to be a potential valid match and configuring the individual option as a new entry in a new grammar, the new grammar being independent of the pre-built grammar and automatically constructed to hold the new entry, the new entry having text corresponding to text of the individual option, the text of the new entry being both a recognition string and an associated annotation.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for managing grammar options in a graphical callflow builder when creating a speech recognition callflow for an application, the system comprising:

a graphical user interface;

a memory; and

a processor programmed to place a symbolic representation of a prompt into a workspace of the graphical user interface for creating the speech recognition callflow for the application, and to attach to the prompt at least one among a pre-built grammar selected by a user and a user-entered individual new option entered by the user using the graphical user interface during user-directed creation of the speech recognition callflow;

wherein said prompt defines a query requesting a value for a variable, wherein said placing generates within said application an instruction to present said query to a user, ~~and;~~

wherein said attaching generates within said application an instruction to process a speech input responsive to said presented query using at least one among said pre-built grammar and said new option, wherein said pre-built grammar includes phrases associated with valid values for said variable, and wherein said new option comprises a user-defined phrase associated with a valid value for said variable; and

wherein, if the new option does not match any element of the pre-built grammar or an annotation associated with an element of the pre-built grammar, said processor is programmed to automatically generate a new grammar independent of the pre-built grammar, the new grammar containing said new option.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the ~~processors of~~ the processor is programmed to attach the pre-built grammar by selecting the pre-built grammar from a list of pre-built grammars.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the processor is further programmed to search the list of pre-built grammars for matches to the user-entered individual new option.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein if a match exists between a listed pre-built grammar and the user-entered individual new option, then the user-entered individual new option points to said matching pre-built grammar.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the pre-built grammars are selected from the group comprising VoiceXML and custom-built grammars from a library.

17. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the processor is further programmed to further enable a customized user selective output of the pre-built grammar.

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein if no match exists between the list of pre-built grammars and the user-entered option, then the phrase in said option is added to said pre-built grammar.

19. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to create a speech recognition callflow for an application by performing the steps of:

placing a symbolic representation of a prompt into a workspace of a graphical user interface for creating the speech recognition callflow for the application, said prompt

defining a query requesting a value for a variable, wherein said placing generates within said application an instruction to present said query to a user;

attaching to the prompt representation at least one among a pre-built grammar selected by a user and a user-entered individual new option entered by the user using the graphical user interface during user-directed creation of the speech recognition callflow, wherein said attaching generates within said application an instruction to process a speech input responsive to said presented query using at least one among said pre-built grammar and said new option, wherein said pre-built grammar includes phrases associated with valid values for said variable, and wherein said new option comprises a user-defined phrase associated with a valid value for said variable;

if the new option does not match any element of the pre-built grammar or an annotation associated with an element of the pre-built grammar, automatically generating a new grammar independent of the pre-built grammar, the new grammar containing the new option; and

repeating the steps of placing and attaching for each other request to be included in the callflow until the speech recognition callflow has been completed.

20. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage of claim 19, wherein the machine-readable storage is further programmed to select the pre-built grammar from a list of pre-built grammars.